and consequent losses to foreign companies;

(b) whether such an attitude is likely to create differences in the bilateral trade relations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and what steps propose to take to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) The Berlin Office of the Embassy of India has not received any complaints from foreign entrepreneurs against India PSUs. However, Government are aware of some commercial complaints raised by German companies against India companies/PSUs. Complaints of a commercial nature are basically for the parties concerned to resolve between themselves. Wherever necessary, Government uses what good offices are possible to facilitate a resolution of such differences.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Indian books seized by the Bangladesh Government

437. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Bangladesh Government have seized hundreds of Indian titles exhibited at Book Fair recently;

(b) if so, details of the books seized including the titles;

(c) whether Government did take up the matter with Bangladesh Government;

(d) whether Government have demanded compensation from Bangladesh Government for the loss incurred by Indian Publishers;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(f) whether Government propose to raise this issue in the next SAARC conference so that such actions are not resorted to by the SAARC nations against each other?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) We have seen reports that Indian books and posters were banned at the Annual Book Fair organised by the Bangla Academy, Dhaka in February, 1995. When several book sellers ignored the ban, the Bangladesh Book Publishers and Sellers Association along with the Bangla Academy decided to impose the ban. A team of students and cultural activists seized several hundred Indian books and posters and removed them from the stalls on February 3, 1995 in the presence of the officials of the Bangla Academy and others.

(b) No details of the books seized at the Book Fair are available. The display of books was arranged by local book sellers in Dhaka.

(c) to (e) Government have not taken up with the Government of Bangladesh the issue of the ban imposed on Indian books at the Book Fair. The ban was not imposed by the Government of Bangladesh directly but by the Bangla Academy along with the Bangladesh Books Publishers and Sellers Association. The display was arranged by local book sellers in Dhaka; no complaint has been received from any Indian Publishers and hence the question of compensation does not arise.

(f) There is no proposal at present with Government to raise this issue in the next SAARC conference.

रूस और चेचेनिया के बीच विवाद

438. मौलाना अबेदुल्ला खान आज़मी: क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) रूस और चेचेनिया के बीच विवाद के बारे में भारत की नीति क्या है; और

(ख) क्या भारत ने दोनों देशों के बीच शान्ति के लिए के लिए कोई पहल की है?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर एल. भाटिया) : (क) भारत चचनिया को रूसी परिसंघ का एक अभिन्न अंग मानता है।

(ख) जी, नहीं। चेचनिया में हो रही घटनाएं रूसी परिसंघ का आन्तरिक मामला है।

Facilities to pilgrims visiting Kailash Mansarovar

439. SHRI SUREEH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have invited applications for pilgrimage to Kailash Mansarovar to be organised in June-July, 1995;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to give the same concessions and facilities to the devotees visiting Kailash-Mansarovar which are given to the citizene going for *Haj*; and

(d) if not, what facilities Government propose to provide to the devotees going to Kailash Mansarovar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) yes, Sir. Government have invited applications from Indian citizens who wish to undertake the Kailash Mansaroar Yatra by inserting an advertisement in leading dailies;

(c) and (d) Facilities provided by Government for the pilgrimage to Kailash—Mansarovar and Haj are not the same because of the differences in the nature of journeys involved. Facilities provided to the Kailash Mansarovar pilgrims by Government include, *inter alia*, medical assistance wireless cover, communication links with China, issuance of foreign exchange and aerial evacuation of pilgrims in case of emergencies. Costs towards the publication of the advertisement, establishment of communication links and aerial evacuat on of pilgrims are borne by Government. Government also provides partial financial assitance to Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam, which is responsible for the logistics on the Indian side.

..Visit of foreign delegations to India

440. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign delegations which visited to India during the last two years, year-wise and country-wise;

(b) the number of agreements signed with each country in different fields; and

(c) the results achieved by these visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Visit of Deputy Prime Minister of Nepal

441. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the discussions held with the Deputy Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal, during the last month particularly on the latter's proposal to review and make relevant to the existing needs the 1950 Treaty of Peace and Friendship between the two countries.

(b) what other points were raised by him regarding the India-aided projects in Nepal like the Tanakpur Hydroelectric Project on which differences existed between Delhi and the new dispensation in Kathmandu; transportation of goods to Nepal through the congested Calcutta